

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 SAM-01 SAB-01

AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIEP-02 COME-00 EB-11 FEA-02

FPC-01 H-03 INT-08 L-03 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 SCI-06

SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /185 W

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R 151635Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8640

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, DA

SUBJ: ENERGY: ALLEGED SAUDI INCLUSION OF DENMARK
IN OIL BOYCOTT

REF: COPENHAGEN 653 (NOTAL)

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1. ON MARCH 14, DANISH PRESS PUBLISHED REPORT OF INTERVIEW WHICH SAUDI OIL MINISTER YAMANI GAVE TO "AL AKHBAR" IN WHICH YAMANI IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT OIL RESTRICTIONS WOULD BE MAINTAINED TOWARD DENMARK AND THE NETHERLANDS AFTER THE EMBARGO AGAINST THE U.S. IS LIFTED. HE ALLEGEDLY ADDED THAT THE ARABS DID NOT WANT TO ASSIST THESE TWO COUNTRIES IN ANY WAY SINCE THEY HAD NOT CHANGED THEIR POLICIES TOWARD THE ARAB STATES.

2. FONOFF, WHICH HAS NO MISSION IN SAUDI ARABIA, CHECKED WITH ITS CAIRO EMBASSY ON YAMANI STATEMENT. LATTER REPORTED THAT YAMANI INTERVIEW TOOK PLACE WHILE HE WAS ON HIS WAY TO THE AIRPORT FOR TRIPOLI MEETING. SEVERAL OTHER REPORTERS WERE PRESENT BUT NONE PICKED UP STATEMENT THAT DENMARK IS UNDER BOYCOTT. FONOFF HAS ALSO HEARD FROM SEVERAL OTHER ARAB STATES THAT NONE HAS IMPRESSION ANY SPECIFIC ACTION AGAINST DENMARK IS INTENDED AND THAT IT WILL CONTINUE TO BE TREATED IN NON-DISCRIMINATORY FASHION. FONOFF THEREFORE CONCLUDES THAT, UNLESS IT HEARS OTHERWISE, YAMANI WAS MISQUOTED.

3. SITUATION WAS FURTHER CONFUSED BY INTERVIEW WITH EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF DANISH JOINT OIL TRADE COUNCIL, KNUD PETERSEN, PUBLISHED IN MARCH 15 LEADING FINANCIAL DAILY, BORSEN, IN WHICH PETERSEN IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT OIL BOYCOTT AGAINST DENMARK AND NETHERLANDS IS "SO MUCH HOT AIR" SINCE INTERNATIONAL MAJORS FIND WAYS TO CIRCUMVENT BOYCOTT. DANSK ESSO ISSUED PRESS RELEASE REBUTTING THIS STATEMENT AND PETERSEN ISSUED BRIEF STATEMENT SAYING HE WAS MISQUOTED. HOWEVER, MAJOR OIL COMPANIES AND FONOFF ARE WORRIED ABOUT EFFECTS SUCH STATEMENT SHOULD IT BE REPORTED BACK TO ARAB CAPITALS.

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